

§ 19.29 Statement of the Case.

The Statement of the Case must be complete enough to allow the appellant to present written and/or oral arguments before the Board of Veterans' Appeals. It must contain:

(a) A summary of the evidence in the case relating to the issue or issues with which the appellant or representative has expressed disagreement;

(b) A summary of the applicable laws and regulations, with appropriate citations, and a discussion of how such laws and regulations affect the determination; and

(c) The determination of the agency of original jurisdiction on each issue and the reasons for each such determination with respect to which disagreement has been expressed.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105(d)(1))

§ 19.30 Furnishing the Statement of the Case and instructions for filing a Substantive Appeal.

(a) *To whom the Statement of the Case is furnished.* The Statement of the Case will be forwarded to the appellant at the latest address of record and a separate copy provided to his or her representative (if any).

(b) *Information furnished with the Statement of the Case.* With the Statement of the Case, the appellant and the representative will be furnished information on the right to file, and time limit for filing, a Substantive Appeal; information on hearing and representation rights; and a VA Form 9, "Appeal to Board of Veterans' Appeals."

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105)

[57 FR 4104, Feb. 3, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 20449, May 7, 1996]

§ 19.31 Supplemental Statement of the Case.

A Supplemental Statement of the Case, so identified, will be furnished to the appellant and his or her representative, if any, when additional pertinent evidence is received after a Statement of the Case or the most recent Supplemental Statement of the Case has been issued, when a material defect in the Statement of the Case or a prior Supplemental Statement of the Case is discovered, or when, for any other reason, the Statement of the Case or a prior

Supplemental Statement of the Case is inadequate. A Supplemental Statement of the Case will also be issued following development pursuant to a remand by the Board unless the only purpose of the remand is to assemble records previously considered by the agency of original jurisdiction and properly discussed in a prior Statement of the Case or Supplemental Statement of the Case or unless the Board specifies in the remand that a Supplemental Statement of the Case is not required. If the case is remanded to cure a procedural defect, a Supplemental Statement of the Case will be issued to assure full notification to the appellant of the status of the case, unless the Board directs otherwise.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105(d))

[57 FR 4104, Feb. 3, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 20449, May 7, 1996]

§ 19.32 Closing of appeal for failure to respond to Statement of the Case.

The agency of original jurisdiction may close the appeal without notice to an appellant or his or her representative for failure to respond to a Statement of the Case within the period allowed. However, if a Substantive Appeal is subsequently received within the 1-year appeal period (60-day appeal period for simultaneously contested claims), the appeal will be considered to be reactivated.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105(d)(3))

§ 19.33 Timely filing of Notice of Disagreement or Substantive Appeal questioned within the agency of original jurisdiction.

If, within the agency of original jurisdiction, there is a question as to the timely filing of a Notice of Disagreement or Substantive Appeal, the procedures for an administrative appeal must be followed.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105, 7106)

§ 19.34 Determination that Notice of Disagreement or Substantive Appeal was not timely filed protested by claimant or representative.

Whether a Notice of Disagreement or Substantive Appeal has been filed on time is an appealable issue. If the claimant or his or her representative

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protests an adverse determination made by the agency of original jurisdiction with respect to timely filing of the Notice of Disagreement or Substantive Appeal, the claimant will be furnished a Statement of the Case.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105)

§ 19.35 Certification of appeals.

Following receipt of the Substantive Appeal, the agency of original jurisdiction will certify the case to the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Certification is accomplished by the completion of VA Form 8, "Certification of Appeal." The certification is used for administrative purposes and does not serve to either confer or deprive the Board of Veterans' Appeals of jurisdiction over an issue.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105)

[57 FR 4104, Feb. 3, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 20449, May 7, 1996]

§ 19.36 Notification of certification of appeal and transfer of appellate record.

When an appeal is certified to the Board of Veterans' Appeals for appellate review and the appellate record is transferred to the Board, the appellant and his or her representative, if any, will be notified in writing of the certification and transfer and of the time limit for requesting a change in representation, for requesting a personal hearing, and for submitting additional evidence described in Rule of Practice 1304 (§ 20.1304 of this chapter).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105)

§ 19.37 Consideration of additional evidence received by the agency of original jurisdiction after an appeal has been initiated.

(a) *Evidence received prior to transfer of records to Board of Veterans' Appeals.* Evidence received by the agency of original jurisdiction prior to transfer of the records to the Board of Veterans' Appeals after an appeal has been initiated (including evidence received after certification has been completed) will be referred to the appropriate rating or authorization activity for review and disposition. If the Statement of the Case and any prior Supplemental Statements of the Case were prepared

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before the receipt of the additional evidence, a Supplemental Statement of the Case will be furnished to the appellant and his or her representative as provided in § 19.31 of this part, unless the additional evidence received duplicates evidence previously of record which was discussed in the Statement of the Case or a prior Supplemental Statement of the Case or the additional evidence is not relevant to the issue, or issues, on appeal.

(b) *Evidence received after transfer of records to the Board of Veterans' Appeals.* Additional evidence received by the agency of original jurisdiction after the records have been transferred to the Board of Veterans' Appeals for appellate consideration will be forwarded to the Board if it has a bearing on the appellate issue or issues. The Board will then determine what action is required with respect to the additional evidence.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105(d)(1))

§ 19.38 Action by agency of original jurisdiction when remand received.

When a case is remanded by the Board of Veterans' Appeals, the agency of original jurisdiction will complete the additional development of the evidence or procedural development required. Following completion of the development, the case will be reviewed to determine whether the additional development, together with the evidence which was previously of record, supports the allowance of all benefits sought on appeal. If so, the Board and the appellant and his or her representative, if any, will be promptly informed. If any benefits sought on appeal remain denied following this review, the agency of original jurisdiction will issue a Supplemental Statement of the Case concerning the additional development pertaining to those issues in accordance with the provisions of § 19.31 of this part. Following the 60-day period allowed for a response to the Supplemental Statement of the Case pursuant to Rule of Practice 302, paragraph (c) (§ 20.302(c) of this chapter), the case will be returned to the Board for further appellate processing unless the appeal is withdrawn or review of the response to the Supplemental Statement of the Case results in the allowance of all